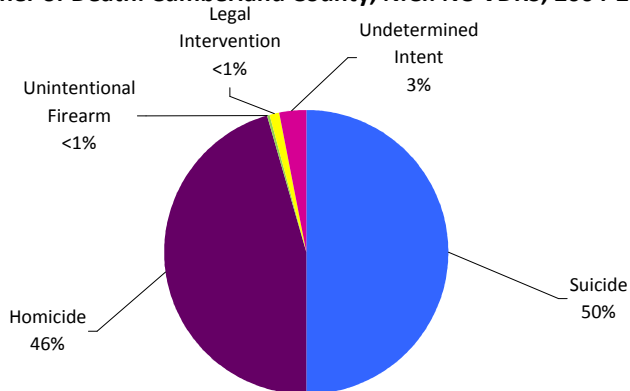


# VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: CUMBERLAND COUNTY INCIDENTS: 2004-2009

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded state-wide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. All deaths reported in this document are based on location of *occurrence* rather than residence and, instead of a rate, the occurrent ratio is reported. This statistic is derived from the total number of violent deaths resulting from injuries in a specified geographic region divided by the number of residents in this region. This document summarizes all fatal injuries from violence that occurred in Cumberland County for the years 2004 through 2009.

**Manner of Death: Cumberland County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2009\***



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- For the years 2004-2009, there were 418 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Cumberland County. Of these 418 deaths, 402 were North Carolina residents (96 %) and 382 were Cumberland County residents (91 %).

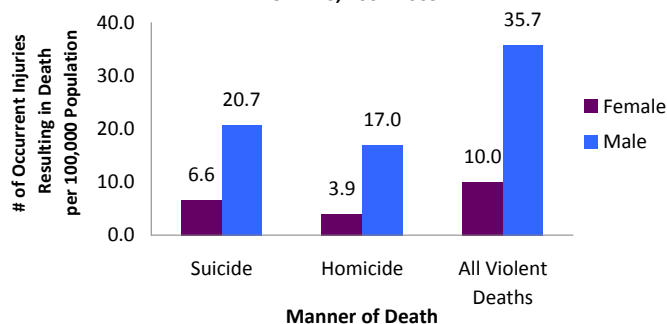
- There were 209 suicides (50 %), 191 homicides (46 %), four deaths from legal interventions (<1 %), one unintentional firearm death (<1 %), and 13 deaths of undetermined intent (3 %).

- In Cumberland County, the suicide ratio was 3.1 times higher in males than females, and the homicide ratio was 4.4 times higher in males than females .

- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be white than black. Whites had 17.9 suicides per 100,000 population versus 5.9 suicides per 100,000 population in blacks. The 'Other Race' category only had 13 deaths.

- In contrast, blacks had 15.5 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to whites who had 6.9 homicides per 100,000 population. The 'Other Race' category had only eight deaths.

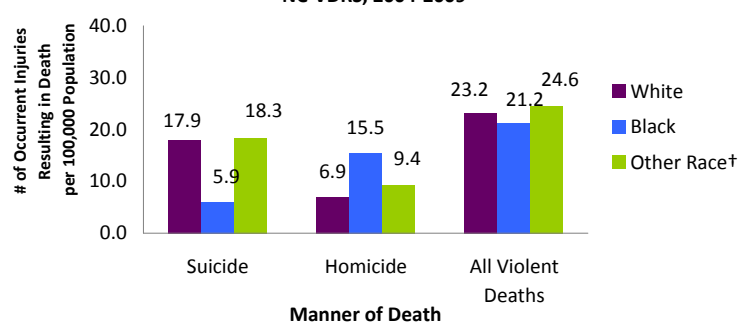
**Manner of Death by Sex: Cumberland County, N.C.:  
NC-VDRS, 2004-2009\***



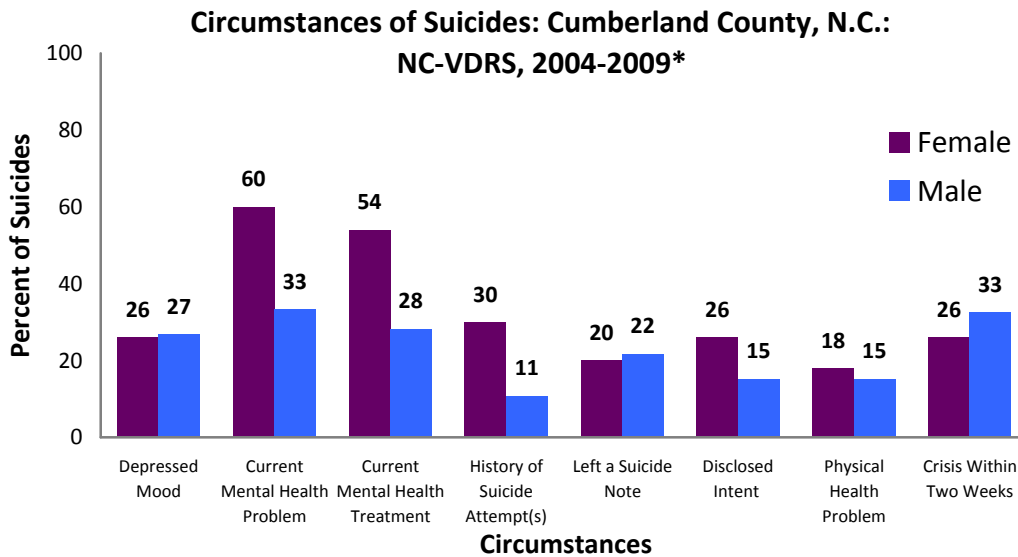
\*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

†Other race refers to American Indians, Asians, etc. Rates might be unstable due to small number of deaths.

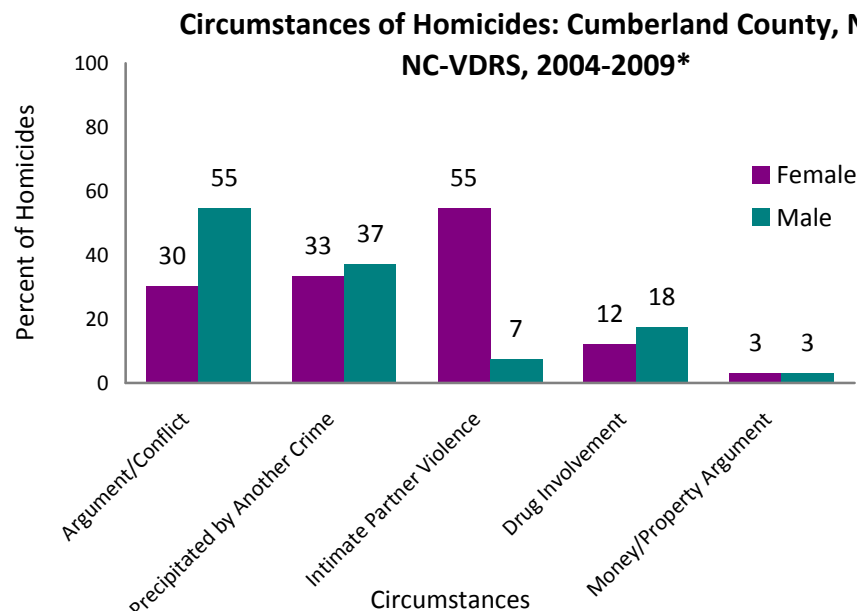
**Manner of Death by Race: Cumberland County, N.C.:  
NC-VDRS, 2004-2009\***



- Homicides and suicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked at 20.3 homicides per 100,000 population among 20-24 year olds. Suicides (23.8 per 100,000) peaked among those 75 to 84.
- Most homicides (66 %) and suicides (58 %) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 34 percent of homicides and 27 percent of suicides.
- For homicide incidents where one or more suspects were identified, the relationship of the victim to the suspect was known (current or former spouse/boyfriend/girlfriend, family, friend or acquaintance) more frequently for female (70 %) than male (47 %) victims.



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. Eighty-nine percent of males and 94 percent of females had circumstance information.



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. Eighty-nine percent of males and 89 percent of females had circumstance information.

- Twenty-seven percent of Cumberland County suicides with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed.
- Sixty percent of female victims and 33 percent of male victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.
- Females (30 %) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past compared to males (11 %).
- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (55 %) than female homicides (30%).
- Thirty-three percent of female homicides and 37 percent of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 55 percent of female homicides, but only 7 percent of male homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE423098-09 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

N.C. Division of Public Health / [www.publichealth.nc.gov](http://www.publichealth.nc.gov) / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425

N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / [www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)

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